



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Art Unit: 3632
RONALD E. TINSLEY) Examiner:
Serial No.: 09/905,446) Kofi A. Schulterbrandt
Filed: July 13, 2001)
For: EPIDURAL STABILIZATION DEVICE)

pmc
4/2
10/21/03

FIRST AMENDMENT

October 7, 2003

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 8, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Exhibit A attached hereto contains a complete listing of all of the claims in this application.

Please amend claims 1 and 4, as set forth in Exhibit A.

Please add new claims 6 and 7, as set forth in Exhibit A.

Please cancel claims 2 and 3.

RECEIVED

OCT 14 2003

GROUP 3600

REMARKS:

A. The amendments and their basis:

1. Claim 1: This claim has been amended to recite that the